

I am writing to express my anger at the proposition that would take away my wireless number in the 310 area code in California.

My mobile phone number and the mobile phones of millions of others in Southern California will be taken away by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in order to give them to new landline telephone customers. If the CPUC proposal is approved, every affected wireless phone will have to have its number reprogrammed. I will be forced to bear the cost (monetary expenses, time investment and inconvenience). It contradicts the basic notion of fairness that I should be deprived of the number I already have in order to accomodate new customers. If I were to move to a new city, it would be absurd to expect that long-time residents would be forced to move to far-flung suburbs or even build new houses for themselves from the ground up in order to accomodate me in a convenient location in the city center.

This proposal will have wide-reaching disruptive impact. The San Bernadino Sun estimates that roughly 3 million customers will be affected by this take away scheme, which is not only anti-consumer, but also anti-competitive and discriminatory. I will be forced to dial ten digits just to reach local, wireline phones, and vice versa, while only wireline customers would retain seven-digit dialing, and then only to call one another. This simply isnt fair; everyone should be treated equally.

There is an alternative. An all services overlay would allow me and every other existing customer to keep our numbers, and wireless and wireline customers would be treated the same.

Wireless users should not be singled out in order to solve the states number crunch, I strongly urge you to consider an all services overlay and to abandon the number take-away proposal.

Sincerely,

Viktor Alekseyev